

# The Scuttlebutt Chronicles

- ❖ VETERANS SERVICES EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT-AMY
- ❖ HOME DEPOT DISCOUNT -YEAR ROUND
- ❖ FOOD ASSISTANCE-VA
- ❖ KIXE AMERICAN VETERAN 4 PART BROADCAST
- ❖ WOMAN VETERAN LICENSE PLATE
- ❖ RESOURCES FOR WOMAN VETERANS
- ❖ CAL VET MESSAGE
- ❖ SEASONAL RECIPE
- ❖ GROCERIES FOR VETERANS-SALVATION ARMY
- ❖ WE NEED YOUR HELP



**VSO Quarterly Newsletter**

**Volume No. 13, January, February, March 2022**

# Veterans Services Team Member

Amy was born in San Jose, California. Her family moved to Kingman, Arizona then soon after returned to the Bay Area when she was 6. Amy lived in San Jose (GO SHARKS), and eventually Gilroy until her final relocation to Cottonwood in 2004.

Amy played softball in grade school, and in middle school she enjoyed time with the Children's Playhouse musical theater group. She spent every summers water skiing, hiking, and camping.

During high school and after graduation, she worked for companies such as Applied Materials, Cisco and eventually joined a private defense contract company pre 9/11. Amy was forced to choose between a defense contract job with mandated travel or time to start a family. She went back to her roots in Human Resources where she was the assistant to the VP of Human Resources and the Director of Labor relations at Good Samaritan Hospital until her relocation to Shasta County.

Amy has been married 25 years and has 2 daughters, 13 & 18.

Her oldest daughter is recently married to a US Marine stationed at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville North Carolina.

Amy comes from a large family with a long military tradition.

She has been with the Shasta County VSO for 4 years now and spends her off time in the county with her family, her dogs, cats and pot belly pig!

**Amy Hancock**

**Administrative Secretary II**

**\*Employee Spotlight\***





# Another 16 million veterans can get Home Depot's new military discount year-round

If you're seeking the **10 percent military discount** at The Home Depot, be prepared for a new policy. The national home improvement retailer has expanded its year-round discount to all veterans — potentially 16 million more veterans plus spouses — and the company has also tightened up its verification process for that discount.

## Here's how it works:

- The military discount program is now open year-round **to all veterans with other-than-dishonorable discharges**.

- \*Previously, only currently serving members, retirees, service-connected disabled veterans and their dependents with ID cards could use it year-round. Other veterans could only use it around certain holidays.

- \*The discount can now be used for Home Depot online purchases; previously it was limited to in-store purchases.

**There are stricter verification requirements.** Rather than showing your ID card at checkout, or some proof of other veteran status each time, you now must be verified through SheerID. That's a one-time process, where you'll create an account that will allow the discount to be automatically applied when shopping online, and a QR code to be scanned in-store at checkout. This will make it easier to verify veterans, who don't always have an ID card. It's not a charge card.

**Spouses of these currently serving and veteran service members are eligible too, but the spouse and veteran must have separate personal accounts in order to each use the discount.**

Eligible participants each have a maximum \$400 discount that can be applied each year to eligible purchases of up to \$4,000, according to the Home Depot website. The discount resets each calendar year. To get the discount, those eligible must [create an account](#) and verify their eligibility through SheerID, in a simple process that takes about five minutes. Once you're verified, to use the discount online, you'll log in to your Home Depot account on [HomeDepot.com](https://www.homedepot.com), and the military discount will be automatically applied to eligible items during checkout.

To use in store, you can download the Home Depot mobile app, and navigate to the military discount page. Scan the QR code during your transaction, and the discount will be applied to eligible items during checkout. You can also log in to your Home Depot account on [HomeDepot.com](https://www.homedepot.com) on your mobile device and scan the QR code from there. The QR codes are updated regularly for security reasons. The Home Depot military discount can only be used on eligible purchases within the \$400 maximum annual discount. There are some exclusions. It can't be used on certain items, services and fees, such as some commodity products (including lumber, wire, building materials), value-priced merchandise, appliances, tool rental fees, labor items, gift cards and services including freight and delivery. That's not an all-inclusive list.

**There has been some confusion in the past because some individual Home Depot stores have had different procedures, but this brings a more standard implementation while expanding the discount to all veterans with other-than-dishonorable discharges.**

"We're proud to expand this military discount benefit for families who have sacrificed so much for our country," said Ted Decker, president and chief operating officer of The Home Depot, in an announcement of the expansion.



## **VA and USDA have several programs available to assist Veterans with needs related to food insecurity, nutrition, and wellness.**

In support of Veterans' whole-health and well-being, the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Nutrition and Food Services (NFS) and the U.S Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) work together to address Veterans' nutritional needs and food insecurity.

Food insecurity means access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources.

Some of the programs available to Veterans and their family members include:

- USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Helps low-income individuals and families buy nutritious food with an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card, which appears similar to a debit card.
- USDA SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) - SNAP recipients can receive services through the SNAP E&T Program which helps participants gain the skills, training, or work experience they need to increase their ability to obtain regular employment and meet the needs of employers.
- VA MOVE! – A Weight Management Program that is available to every Veteran receiving VA health care and provides Veterans with a variety of ways to participate in a comprehensive lifestyle intervention.
- VHA Healthy Teaching Kitchen - A VA program through which Veterans learn to prepare, cook, and eat healthy dishes that support nutrition and self-care.
- VHA Whole Health - A VA program that empowers and equips Veterans to take charge of their health and well-being. Health care team will get to know the Veteran and develop a personalized health plan specifically for them, taking into account their values, needs, and goals.

Note: Veterans do not need to be enrolled in the VA system to participate in SNAP. For more information, please visit: [www.fns.usda.gov/snap/recipient/eligibility](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/recipient/eligibility).

# Explores the Breadth of the Veteran Experience Across the Nation's History Through Interviews with Dozens of Veterans From All Branches of the Service

## AMERICAN VETERAN

TUESDAYS BEGINNING OCTOBER 26TH  
ON KIXE CHANNEL 9

NOVEMBER 17TH AT 6PM  
FREE ONLINE SCREENING  
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT KIXE.ORG



*American Veteran* is a four-part broadcast series that will explore the entire arc of a veteran's career, from enlistment to tours of duty, to homecoming and beyond. While the series will have a significant historical component, it will be animated primarily by the stories and experiences of living veterans, from WWII up to the present. The series seeks to understand the powerful cultural identity that veterans from all five branches of the service share, the often-transformative nature of their time in uniform, and their commitment to an ideal of service that often goes beyond their active duty.

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/american-veteran/>





# FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN WARRIORS

We are pleased to announce the California Department of Veterans Affairs has approved our proposed Woman Veteran decal for the Honoring Veterans License Plate. This means for the first time ever in the state of California, women veterans will be recognized with their very own license plate.

To make the woman veteran license plate available to all California women veterans through the DMV, we must first collect a minimum of 50 paid applications for the license plate with special decal. The license plate is \$50 with an additional \$2 payment processing fee.

This Woman Veteran License Plate purchase will include the woman veteran decal and the bottom "HONORING VETERANS" red stripe.

**Please download the application ([DMV License Decal Application- Foundation for Women Warriors](#)), process payment and send your completed application to Shaeli Chapman at [schapman@f4ww.org](mailto:schapman@f4ww.org).**

On the application, steps 1 through 4, and 8 are required. Steps 5, 6, and 9 do not need any additional information. Step 7 is only required if you are requesting personalized characters on your plate.

Special thanks to Jan Kays, Air Force veteran and decal artist.



# Resources for Woman Veterans

## Foundation for Women Warriors

<https://foundationforwomenwarriors.org/guiding-principles/>

Often overshadowed by their male counterparts, our programs honor, empower and support the women who answered our nation's call to serve.

## Female Veterans Network

[http://femaleveteransnetwork.org/?fbclid=IwAR3Te2rUTsZum0JfcwEvwW\\_OIUtLF2UzCQChTPMAIxH0QqwVGKUE2lBa1n8](http://femaleveteransnetwork.org/?fbclid=IwAR3Te2rUTsZum0JfcwEvwW_OIUtLF2UzCQChTPMAIxH0QqwVGKUE2lBa1n8)

Female Veterans Network was formed to unite female veterans and develop camaraderie. We provide a place to meet where we can discuss the issues and causes that are important and unique to female veterans.

To develop solutions to them, as well as promote the sharing, gathering of knowledge and information regarding female veterans from all branches of the military. Recognize and thank all the women who have served and are serving in the military today.

We seek to help female veterans in need as well as be involved in our community. We honor our past and are focused on our future.

## Woman Veterans of California

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/105118339582096>

We are active-duty women, veteran women and women in service to women veterans. This is a place to share resources, events, legislative news relevant to our members and provide a safe and familiar community. Any member may add other women veterans and active-duty ladies.

## CalVet Women's Vets

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/WomenVets/Pages/Women-Veterans-Reception.aspx>

## Women's Veteran Organizations

- [The Women's Memorial.org](http://TheWomen'sMemorial.org)
- [American Women Veterans.org](http://AmericanWomenVeterans.org)
- [Grace After Fire.org](http://GraceAfterFire.org)
- [Foundation for Women Warriors.org](http://FoundationforWomenWarriors.org)
- [Mindful Veteran Project.org](http://MindfulVeteranProject.org)
- [National Association of Black Military Women.org](http://NationalAssociationofBlackMilitaryWomen.org)
- [Service Action Women's Network.org](http://ServiceActionWomen'sNetwork.org)
- [United States Army Women's Foundation.org](http://UnitedStatesArmyWomen'sFoundation.org)
- [Women Vets On Point.org](http://WomenVetsOnPoint.org)
- [Women Veteran's Initiative-FB](http://WomenVeteran'sInitiative-FB)
- [Women Veterans Rock.org](http://WomenVeteransRock.org)
- [United States Army Women's Museum-.mil](http://UnitedStatesArmyWomen'sMuseum-.mil)
- [Veterans Yoga Project.org](http://VeteransYogaProject.org)
- [Women in Military Service for America.org](http://WomeninMilitaryServiceforAmerica.org)
- [Women's Army Corps Veterans Association.org](http://Women'sArmyCorpsVeteransAssociation.org)
- [Women Marine Association.org](http://WomenMarineAssociation.org)
- [Women Veterans Alliance.org](http://WomenVeteransAlliance.org)





Dear California Veterans,

First, I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy New Year! The 2021 year certainly came with its challenges and again required all of us to remain vigilant for the health and safety of our families, flexible to the changing landscapes of work, school, and home life. Similar to the year 2020, 2021 required a steadfast resilience that, at times, could be exhausting if not all together overwhelming. However, 2022 is here and with it, and every new year comes renewed promise, hope, and inspiration.

The Veterans Services Division (VSD) will look to assist California's veterans and their families as they stabilize and secure their surroundings in 2022. Every month, we will feature an area of focus while providing you outreach, service, and training opportunities in support of the theme to assist you all in reaching your goals for the new year.

The focus in January will be on employment as we host a series of webinars that provide connections to numerous career opportunities offered through federal, state, and private employers. We will also highlight opportunities to start your own business, training through apprenticeship programs, resume writing, and interview techniques.

Currently, there are over 2400 federal employment opportunities in California and over 3800 employment opportunities with the State of California. Work for Warriors, a program operated through the California National Guard and our long-time partner, will also be joining the series of webinars. In fact, Work for Warriors and its cohort of employers are currently offering more than 1800 openings in a variety of occupational fields throughout the state.

Please join CalTAP on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> to learn more about employment opportunities available for you. Additional opportunities to connect with individual employers and learn more about their companies will be available throughout the year. Check out our upcoming webinars and archives page for more information.

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/California-Transition-Assistance-Program.aspx>

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/California-Transition-Assistance-Program-Webinars.aspx>

Again, Happy New Year...and we look forward to a happy and healthy 2022!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Boylan".

Keith Boylan  
Deputy Secretary, Veteran Services Division



## INGREDIENTS

- **6 medium potatoes**
- **6 tablespoons butter, divided**
- **1 tablespoon salt**
- **$\frac{1}{2}$  cup heavy cream**
- **1  $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. lean ground beef**
- **1 (2 ounce) package onion soup mix**
- **1 (4 ounce) can sliced mushrooms**
- **1 cup cut green beans (drained)**
- **1 cup corn niblets (drained)**
- **1 cup peas**
- **1 cup carrot, diced**
- **1 small onion, chopped**
- **1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups beef broth**
- **4 tablespoons flour**
- **4 tablespoons ketchup**
- **4 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce**
- **1 tablespoon garlic, minced**
- **1 teaspoon thyme**
- **1 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)**
- **$\frac{1}{2}$  cup cheddar cheese, shredded**
- (optional but a very nice addition)

## DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- Peel potatoes and slice into 1" cubes and add to medium saucepan and cover with water. Bring to boil and simmer until soft.
- In large skillet, add onions, garlic and 3 tbsp butter and sauté until translucent.
- Drain water from potatoes and add 3 tbsp butter, heavy cream, cheddar cheese and salt. Whip until smooth and creamy.
- Add ground beef to onions and garlic and brown thoroughly.
- Add flour and onion soup mix. Mix well and cook for 2 -3 minutes. Add broth, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce, thyme and cayenne pepper and combine thoroughly.
- Add vegetables and bring to a simmer for 5 minutes.
- Pour meat and vegetable mixture into casserole dish and top with mashed potato mixture. Place in oven. Cook for 30 minutes or until golden brown.

# Shepherds Pie

*Bon  
Appetit!*



In an effort to honor and appreciate  
our local Veterans,  
**Groceries** are available for you.  
Present your DL with **VETERAN**  
designation, DD214 or show us your  
VHA Health Card

All Veterans over the age 65 are encouraged to visit!



# GROCERIES FOR VETERANS

**THE SALVATION ARMY  
REDDING**

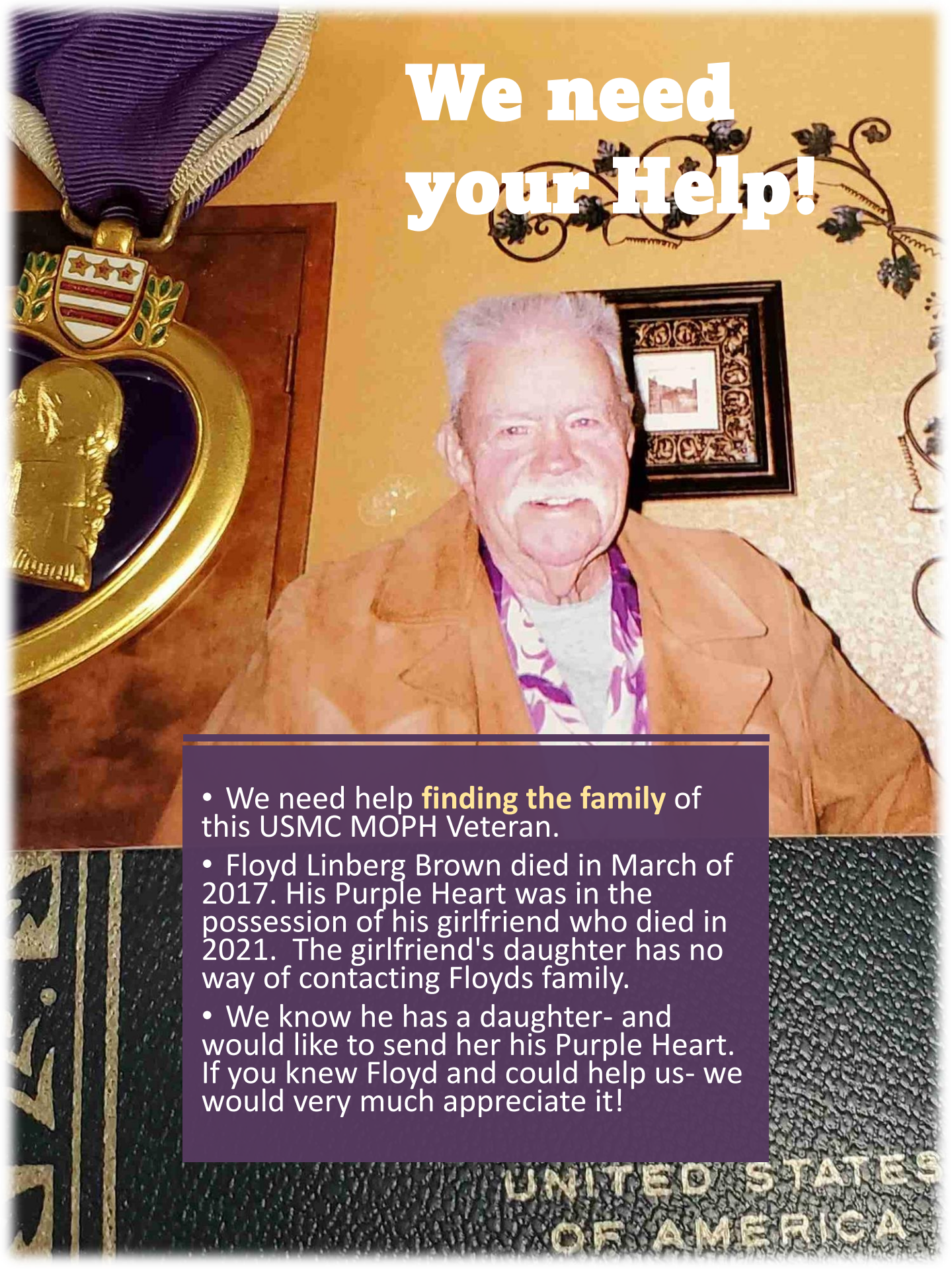
**Every Wednesday**  
**9:00-11:00 AM**  
NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED



**2691 Larkspur Lane Redding, CA 96003**  
530.222.2207 press 2



# We need your Help!

- 
- We need help **finding the family** of this USMC MOPH Veteran.
  - Floyd Linberg Brown died in March of 2017. His Purple Heart was in the possession of his girlfriend who died in 2021. The girlfriend's daughter has no way of contacting Floyds family.
  - We know he has a daughter- and would like to send her his Purple Heart. If you knew Floyd and could help us- we would very much appreciate it!

UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA



Welcome to our Winter edition of our 2022 VSO newsletter. Our hope is to find you and your family healthy and safe. Even though we are still dealing with the COVID crisis in Shasta County, it doesn't mean that Veterans Services has slowed down honoring veterans. In 2022, I have many planned projects to honor veterans so stay tuned for each published newsletter to see the newest project and an opportunity to participate. Cheers to 2022.



**Celestina Traver**  
Veterans Services Officer



**Troy Payne**  
Veterans Service Representative  
tpayne@co.shasta.ca.us



**Amy Hancock**  
Administrative Secretary



**Renee Cotter**  
Veterans Service Representative  
rcotter@co.shasta.ca.us



**Nora Smith**  
Veterans Service Representative  
nsmith@co.shasta.ca.us

Retired as of 2/24



**Tarah Adner**  
Office Assistant



**Victoria O'Callaghan**  
Veterans Service Representative  
vocallaghan@co.shasta.ca.us

**Shasta County**

**Veteran Services Office**

Office: 530-225-5616 Option #2

Visit our webpage for printable checklists.

[vso@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:vso@co.shasta.ca.us)

**facebook**